IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

(Currently amended) A method for upgrading the schema of a database, 1.

comprising:

updating a message from a first version to an upgraded version by chaining

through intermediate versions, wherein updating comprises:

receiving an update message having a first version format; and

repeatedly generating a revised update message having a next most recent

version format based on the update message until a final update message having an

upgraded version format is generated.

(Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein generating a revised 2.

update message having a next most recent version format includes:

receiving a first update message; and

calling a next most recent version mapping function to map contents of the first

update message to generate a second update message.

(Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the update message includes a set of 3.

records for a database in the first version.

- 2 -

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the set of records for the database in

the first version is a complete set of records for the database.

5. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having instructions stored thereon, which

when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method for upgrading

the schema of a database, comprising:

receiving an update message having a first version format; and

generating repeatedly a revised update message having a next most recent

version format based on the update message until a final update message having an

upgraded version format is generated.

6. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 5, the method further

comprising:

receiving a first update message; and

calling a next most recent version mapping function to map contents of the first

update message to generate a second update message.

7. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 5, wherein the update

message includes a set of records for a database in the first version.

8. (Previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 7, wherein the set of

records for the database in the first version is complete set of records for the database.

Examiner: Jean B. Fleurantin Art Unit: 2162

- 3 -

(Currently amended) An apparatus for updating a message from a first version 9.

of schema to an upgraded version of schema by chaining through intermediate versions

comprising:

means for receiving an update message having a first version format; and

means for repeatedly generating a revised update message having a next most

recent format based on the update message until a final update message having an

upgraded version format is generated.

(Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising: 10.

means for receiving a first update message; and

means for calling a next most recent version mapping function to map contents of

the first update message to generate a second update message.

(Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the update message includes a set 11.

of records for a database in the first version.

(Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the set of records for the database 12.

in the first version is a complete set of records for the database.

13. (Currently amended) An apparatus for upgrading the schema of a database,

comprising:

a network switching device to receive an update message having a first version

format and

Examiner: Jean B. Fleurantin Art Unit: 2162

- 4 -

a controller card to update a message from a first version to an upgraded version

by chaining through intermediate versions, the controller card to repeatedly

generate a revised update message having a next most recent version format based on

the update message until a final update message having an upgraded version format is

generated.

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the network

switching device receives a first update message.

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising:

A mapper to call a next most recent version mapping function to map contents of

the first update message to generate a second update message.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the update message

includes a set of records for a database in the first version.

(Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the set of records for 17.

the database in the first version is a complete set of records for the database.

Examiner: Jean B. Fleurantin Art Unit: 2162

- 5 -